

Using Twitter



Using Twitter to Communicate with the School Community

Dave Macmillan, St Mary's Catholic School

★ Criteria one

Professional Relationships and Professional Values

Criteria 1: Establish and maintain effective professional relationships focused on the learning and well-being of all ākonga.

GUIDING QUESTION:

How do I / can I embrace e-learning to establish and develop working relationships with my ākonga, their whānau and my colleagues to support the learning of those I teach? (ākonga is inclusive of all learners in the full range of settings)

EXAMPLES

classroom blogs and wikis

Enabling whānau to keep in touch with the class programme and to encourage interaction between home and school.

EXAMPLES

tools for dialogue and reflection

Using digital tools that allow colleagues, students and the school community to have a voice in decision making, discussions and reflections.

EXAMPLES

individualised student feedback

Using digital tools to give students feedback about their learning and behaviour and inviting them to respond.

EXAMPLES

regular contact using tools families use

Contacting families just-in-time and just because. eg emailing twice a week Encourage parents to provide just-in-time information

EXAMPLES

e-portfolios

Supporting parent/whānau to access their child's e-portfolio and become actively involved in what they are learning and what they need to do next.

EXAMPLES

video conferencing

Valuing the expertise in the school community by inviting participation in the classroom programme through the use of video conferencing.

EXAMPLES

participating in online networks

Being an active member of the wider educational community through online networks.

EXAMPLES

sharing information between stakeholders

Using online tools to share information about a child with educators, special needs specialists and families so all feel involved and valued.



What is Twitter

Twitter is a social network that revolves around short updates of 140 characters or less.

People who are interested in following you can access those updates.

You can choose who you follow. You can stop following them too.

Like a personal radio station

Broadcast (tweet) what you want to discuss
Tune in (follow) the stations of others you find
valuable

Turn off those you are no longer interested in



Why would I Twitter?



Reasons to Twitter Parents

Communicate with less
waffle and padding

Keep parents up to date

Quick

Easy to use

Do it when it suits

"Just in time" and useful

St Mary's Catholic School, Rotorua, New Zealand
PH: (07) 348 1701 Email: admin@stmarys.rotorua.school.nz

KnowledgeNET Login: Username Password GO >

With Christ As Our Centre We Strive For Excellence

St Mary's Catholic School

Rotorua New Zealand

About our School

School Information

Our Community

Contact Us

Welcome to St Mary's

[School calendar](#) [Newsletters](#) [Sports draws](#)

Important Notice: Due to building work in the Admin/Junior block the school office will be located in the library until building work is completed. Access to the temporary office area is through the library doors near the staff carpark. Please keep out of the fenced area for safety reasons.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Digital citizenship.

Messages

Reminders

StMarys_Rotorua Senior school firewood raffle money needs to be returned urgently please.
13 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite

StMarys_Rotorua Congratulations to our middle school Lego competition winners.
13 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite

StMarys_Rotorua Good luck to our cross country runners who are competing against children from other schools tomorrow.
13 hours ago · reply · retweet · favorite

StMarys_Rotorua Remember no school for chn Fri. See you all on Tuesday.
11 days ago · reply · retweet · favorite

[Join the conversation](#)

Why tweet?

Connection with
home

Communication with
home

Why tweet?

why not?

Connection with
home

Communication with
home

Free tool

Twitter is an incredibly efficient tool for connecting with your parents. Don't dismiss it until you have tried it.

Twitter has followers, not friends.

How easy was it to set up for our school?
How easy it is for me to use?

Account
set up

How to
access
to "tweet"
Password

Typing a
tweet

Promoting
to get
followers

The screenshot shows a Twitter interface with a dark navigation bar at the top containing 'Home', 'Connect', 'Discover', a search bar, and user icons. The profile header for 'DavidM' (@StMarys_Rotorua) includes a blue shield logo with a white 'SM', the name 'DavidM', the handle '@StMarys_Rotorua', a 'FOLLOWS YOU' tag, a bio 'We are a proud Catholic school in Rotorua. Keep posted on events and notices here. God bless.', and a website link 'http://www.stmarysrotorua.school.nz/'. To the right of the header are buttons for 'Following' and a dropdown menu, and statistics for '79 TWEETS', '4 FOLLOWING', and '41 FOLLOWERS'. Below the header is a 'Tweet to DavidM' section with a text input field containing '@StMarys_Rotorua'. To the left of the main tweet area is a sidebar with navigation links: 'Tweets', 'Following', 'Followers', 'Favorites', 'Lists', and 'Similar to DavidM'. The 'Similar to DavidM' section lists three accounts: 'Polynesian Spa @PolynesianSpa', 'Agroventures Rotorua @Agroventures', and 'Accommodation @NZ_Rotorua', each with a 'Follow' button. The main 'Tweets' section displays five tweets from DavidM, each with the school logo, the name 'DavidM @StMarys_Rotorua', the text of the tweet, and a timestamp. The tweets are: 1) 'Senior school firewood raffle money needs to be returned urgently please.' (13h), 2) 'Congratulations to our middle school Lego competition winners.' (13h), 3) 'Good luck to our cross country runners who are competing against children from other schools tomorrow.' (13h), 4) 'Remember no school for chn Fri. See you all on Tuesday.' (31 May), and 5) 'Awesome running from our Junior children today. Well done kids.' (30 May). Each tweet has an 'Expand' link below the text.

Your ideas

Key questions

Could Twitter help your school to connect with your parents?

Could Twitter help your school to provide reminders for parents?

How will you set up your account and get parents to follow you?